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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **YAMAMOTO, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2876**

Serial No.: **09/376,308**

Examiner: **Karl D. Frech**

Filed: **August 18, 1999**

For. **INTEGRATED CIRCUIT FOR PROTOCOL CONTROL**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND**  
**STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 27, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies

XX that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that

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the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

  
William L. Brooks

Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 34,129

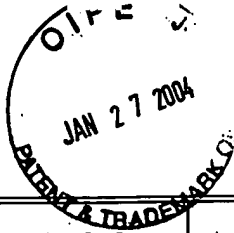
WLB/mla  
Atty. Docket No. **990934**  
Suite 1000  
1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930



**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449  
Reference  
Copy of Japanese Patent Office Communication



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. <b>990934</b>	Serial No. <b>09/376,308</b>
	Applicant(s): <b>YAMAMOTO, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>August 18, 1999</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>2876</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF		
_____	AG		
_____	AH		
_____	AI		
_____	AJ		

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

_____	AK	"Multifunctional IC Card OS for EC and Reader/Writer Developed by IBM Japan"; <u>The Japan Industrial Journal</u> ; No. 23, Vol. 9, September 10, 1997; page 61.
_____	AL	Copy of Japanese Patent Office Decision of Rejection for corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. HEI-301498 dated December 2, 2003.
Examiner _____ Date Considered _____		